

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the Claims will replace all prior listings and versions of the Claims in the application.

- (currently amended) An article for smoking an elongate tobacco product comprising:

 - a) a mouthpiece having an inside surface and an outside surface, comprising a first end defining a receptacle therein and a second end comprising an outside surface capable of being grasped in a smoker's mouth and defining an outlet chamber within the mouthpiece, wherein said mouthpiece consists of a single piece of molded plastic ; and
 - b) a holder, the holder being directly inserted into the receptacle, the holder comprising
 - i) a first section disposed at an end of the holder defining an inside chamber capable of holding the elongate tobacco product in place and allowing a volume for collection of combustion products therein, the first section having an outside surface with a diameter too large to fit into the receptacle in the mouth piece,
 - ii) a second section in series with the first section and having an inside and an outside surface, the second section contoured to fit into the receptacle in the mouthpiece and defining a continuation of the inside chamber,
 - iii) a first annular support and a second annular support on the outside surface of the second section, each annular support being capable of holding a resilient ring thereon, and
 - iv) an annular baffle on the outside surface of the second section between the first annular support and the second annular support[, and];

- 27 v) two resilient rings, one resilient ring supported on each
28 annular support, wherein the mouthpiece and the holder are
29 contoured such that when the holder is inserted into the
30 mouthpiece the two resilient rings are in snug contact with
31 the inner surface of the mouthpiece forming a sealed
32 chamber between them in the annular space between the
33 outside surface of the second section and the inside surface
34 of the mouthpiece, and wherein the holder defines at least
35 one restricted passage from the inside chamber to the
36 sealed chamber, said at least one restricted passage being
37 directed towards the inside surface of the mouthpiece
38 between the two annular supports, and wherein the holder
39 further defines an exit passage having at least one inlet
40 between the baffle and the second annular support and an
41 exit into the outlet chamber of the mouthpiece, and wherein
42 the holder consists of a single piece of molded plastic.
- 43 c) two resilient rings, one resilient ring supported on each annular
44 support, wherein the mouthpiece and the holder are contoured
45 such that when the holder is inserted into the mouthpiece the two
46 resilient rings are in snug contact with the inner surface of the
47 mouthpiece forming a sealed chamber between them in the annular
48 space between the outside surface of the second section and the
49 inside surface of the mouthpiece, and wherein the holder defines at
50 least one restricted passage from the inside chamber to the sealed
51 chamber, said at least one restricted passage being directed
52 towards the inside surface of the mouthpiece between the two
53 annular supports, and wherein the holder further defines an exit
54 passage having at least one inlet between the baffle and the
55 second annular support and an exit into the outlet chamber of the
56 mouthpiece; and
- 57 d) wherein the holder consists of a single piece of molded plastic.

1 2 (original) The article of claim 1 wherein the holder further comprises a
2 barrier in series with the second inside chamber such that combustion
3 products can only pass between the inside chamber and the outlet
4 chamber through a path through the restricted passage, the sealed
5 chamber and the exit passage in sequence.

1 3 (original) The article of claim 1 wherein the elongate tobacco product is a
2 cigarette of the type without an integral filter.

1 4 (original) The article of claim 1 wherein the elongate tobacco product is a
2 cigarette with an integral filter.

1 5 (original) The article of claim 1 wherein the elongate tobacco product is a
2 cigar.

1 6 (previously presented) The article of claim [6]1 wherein the resilient rings
2 are o-rings.

1 7 (original) The article of claim 6 wherein the mouthpiece comprises
2 polystyrene, the holder comprises Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene, and the
3 resilient rings are rubber o-rings.

1 8 (previously presented) The article of claim 6 wherein the holder has
2 symmetry about a central plane, wherein any cross section perpendicular
3 to the central plane is circular.

1 9 (original) The article of claim 8 wherein the at least one restricted passage
2 is perpendicular to the central plane of symmetry whereby combustion

3 products are made to change direction by approximately 90 degrees in
4 passing between the second inside chamber and the sealed chamber.

1 10 (original) The article of claim 9 wherein the at least one restricted passage
2 comprises two diametrically opposed passages through the holder.

1 11 (original) The article of claim 8 wherein the exit passage causes a change
2 in direction, whereby combustion products are made to change direction
3 by approximately 90 degrees in passing between the sealed chamber and
4 the outlet chamber.

1 12 (original) The article of claim 11 wherein the at least one inlet to the exit
2 passage comprises two diametrically opposed passages through the
3 holder.

1 13 (Cancelled).

1 14 (previously presented) A process for smoking an elongate tobacco product
2 so as to reduce the amount of tarry materials consumed comprising the
3 acts of:
4 a) placing the elongate tobacco product in a receptacle of a holder, a
5 portion of the holder behind the receptacle being directly and
6 removably inserted into a mouthpiece, wherein the holder and the
7 mouthpiece each consist of a single piece of molded plastic;
8 b) lighting the elongate tobacco product and applying suction to the
9 holder through the mouthpiece such that combustion products are
10 drawn through the holder;
11 c) passing the combustion products through a restricted passage such
12 that the combustion products accelerate, expand and impinge on a
13 side of the mouthpiece into a single sealed chamber formed in an
14 annular space between the holder and the mouthpiece between
15 two resilient rings each forming a seal between the mouthpiece and
16 the holder;
17 d) allowing tarry materials to condense within said sealed chamber;
18 and
19 e) drawing the remaining combustion products over a baffle into an
20 outlet passage leading to an exit of the mouthpiece whereto suction
21 is applied.

1 15 (original) The process of claim 14 further comprising allowing tarry
2 material to accumulate in the sealed chamber.

1 16 (original) The process of claim 15 further comprising the acts of a person
2 grasping the portion of the holder extending outside of the mouthpiece in
3 one hand and the mouthpiece in another hand and pulling the holder out
4 of the mouthpiece, and cleaning an outer surface of the holder and an
5 inner surface of the mouthpiece.

1 17 (original) The process of claim 16 further comprising the act of replacing
2 the holder in the mouthpiece.

1 18 (original) The process of claim 17 wherein the elongated tobacco product
2 is chosen from the group consisting of cigarettes of the type without an
3 integral filter, cigarettes with of the type with an integral filter, and cigars